

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed August 22, 2005 has been reviewed and carefully considered. The Examiner's reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1,2,4,9,12-15, 17-21,23-28,30,34-36 and 40 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 12 and 27 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced.

§103(a) REJECTIONS

The Office Action suggests that Jones et al. can take the dye that is incorporated into a film or the polymer workpiece itself and modify it into a solution according to Ullmann's teachings of processing parameters for paints.

Applicant respectfully points out that painting, an application process, is different from paint, defined by Ullman as "A product, liquid or in powder form, containing *pigment(s)*, which when applied to a substrate forms an opaque film having protective, decorative or specific technical properties.

The combination of references supports applicants arguments for patentability in that it is not obvious to take the dye from Jones et al. film or workpiece, combine it with the acetone solvent mentioned, add paint modifiers and achieve the results set forth in the amended claims. Acetone is volatile and causes crystallization of polycarbonate, as an example of a thermoplastic part used according to the invention. Ullman teaches the modification of solutions to provide an opaque coating containing pigments.

Use of such solutions would not preserve the reflective surface of the workpiece and would occlude or detrimentally introduce heat-sinking additives into the welding zone, per amended claim 1.

While Jones et al generally describes unaffected the appearance of the joint, amended claim 12 characterizes an aspect of the degree of reflectivity as requested by the Office Action, by reciting a 10% greater photopic transmission in the optically fused region.

Neither reference suggests having the dye, the vehicle and the by-products comprise numerically proximate Hansen solubility parameters to obtain enhanced photopic values through the welding zone, as recited in amended claim 27.

No new matter has been introduced. Support for the claim amendments can be found in the specification on page 19, Claim 16, and claims 38 and 39.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 2, 12-15, 17-21, 23-28, 30, 34-36 and 40 are patentable and nonobvious over the cited reference. Consequently, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the application. Such early and favorable consideration by the Examiner is respectfully urged. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone interview may facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, it is requested that the Examiner contact Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Enclosed is a Petition for a one-month Extension of time to respond to this Office Action along with a check of \$120. It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the application, they may be charged to Applicant's representative's Deposit Account No. 50-1433.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: Dec. 22, 2005

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